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PRESIDENT'S PLAN WILL HURT NORTHERN MICHIGAN

While President Obama campaigns around the country trying to sell his \$1.6 trillion tax hike, he has yet to put forward any real plan to reduce spending. The President has called for a "balanced" approach and so far has only suggested more of the same...more taxes and more spending. With a \$16 trillion debt, we need to reduce spending now. House Republicans have offered a reasonable compromise plan that will save \$2.2 trillion through tax reform in combination with real, significant spending cuts. Job providers in Northern Michigan are concerned about the future. They deserve real solutions.

WHAT NORTHERN MICHIGAN JOB PROVIDERS ARE SAYING:

"The real issue and threat to business and our nation is spending. Rather than raising taxes we should cut spending and absorb the pain it may cause now, compared to the much worse pain if we continue to spend ourselves into a Greece scenario. Corporate business taxes are higher than any developed country and should be cut in half. One of our companies paid \$80,000 in taxes in 2010 on taxable income of \$250,000. That's just not the way you encourage business to grow and create jobs."

Steve Perdue Grand Traverse Industries Traverse City

"I am a citizen and a businessman that believes in our elected leaders. I also take my responsibility to pay levied taxes, seriously. I trust that our elected officials have the wisdom to understand our current business world and the ever increasing expenses and difficulties we contend with. This increase in tax will make the load a little harder to bear but will not stagger the strongest. Our concern should be for the vast number of businesses and individuals that have been weakened in recent years. Will they be able to survive another tax burden?"

Tom Moran CEO and Founder Moran Iron Works Onaway

"Every dollar of additional tax is one less dollar available for increasing wages, improving benefits, hiring more people, expanding facilities, developing new products, expanding exports, and supporting our communities. More taxes for Washington means fewer jobs for Upper Michigan - it's that simple."

Timothy T. Nerenz, Ph.D.
President
Oldenburg Group Incorporated
Iron River

"With the current uncertainty in Washington, we are in a holding pattern. We will not be doing any additional hiring or making investments of any kind until the "Fiscal Cliff' is resolved. Considering the discussions in the media and the options that are in the news, we are very concerned that tax rate increases are almost certain to be part of the deal. It is our hope that will not be the case...Tax rate increases will adversely affect us and our small business. Like most small businesses, we file as an S Corp. Therefore, the entire tax burden of the company falls directly to us as individuals...There is only so much money to work with..."

Robert and Lisa Huta Owners RLH Industries, Inc. Gaylord